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OFFICIAL


Docket No. 740124-150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Steffen GEIGER et al.) Group Art Unit: 2838
Application No.: 09/935,161) Examiner: L. Luk
Filed: 08/23/2001)
For: ELECTRONIC TRIGGERING FOR)
HEATING ELEMENTS)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office: Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on April 12, 2004.


K.M. McManus

REQUEST ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RESPONSE FILED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

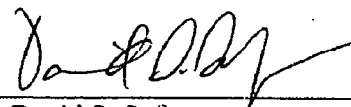
The following is presented in response to the Examiner's telephone inquiry of April 8, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned patent application. On October 17, 2003 a Request for Reconsideration was faxed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of the Request for Reconsideration is attached and a copy of the confirmation dated October 17, 2003 that the U.S. Patent Office received by fax the Request for Reconsideration.

It is respectfully requested that this Request for Reconsideration be entered as being received by the U.S. Patent Office on October 17, 2003 in response the Office Action dated July 18, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 12, 2004

By:



David S. Safran
Registration No. 27,997

NIXON PEABODY LLP
401 9th Street, NW
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Washington D.C. 20006
Telephone: (703) 827-8094

* * * COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT (OCT. 17. 2003 4:54PM) * * *

TTI NIXON PEABODY

TRANSMITTED/STORED OCT. 17. 2003 4:52PM
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REASON FOR ERROR
E-1) HANG UP OR LINE FAIL
E-3) NO ANSWERE-2) BUSY
E-4) NO FACSIMILE CONNECTION

Attorney's Docket No. 740124-150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Steffen GEIGER et al.)

Group Art Unit: 2838)

Application No.: 09/935,161)

Examiner: L. Luk)

Filed: August 23, 2001)

For: **ELECTRONIC TRIGGERING FOR
HEATING ELEMENTS**)**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION under 37 CFR 1.8**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office at (703)305-7724 on October 17, 2003.*Deborah Movahhedi*
Deborah Movahhedi**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is presented in response to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2003, in
connection with the above-captioned patent application.

APR 12 2004

OFFICIAL

Attorney's Docket No. 740124-150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Steffen GEIGER et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2838
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Application No.: 09/935,161)	Examiner: L. Luk
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Filed: August 23, 2001)	
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For: ELECTRONIC TRIGGERING FOR)	
HEATING ELEMENTS	:	
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703)305-7724 on October 17, 2003.


Deborah Movahhedi

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is presented in response to the Office Action mailed July 18, 2003, in connection with the above-captioned patent application.

REMARKS

By the above action, no claim has been amended. Claims 1-8 are pending. Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 4-8 contain allowable subject matter. In view of the comments below, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

Turning to the merits of the Office Action, claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,871,858 to Thomsen et al. (hereinafter Thomsen). This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons provided below.

Thomsen is directed to an anti-theft battery including semiconductor switches that are connected in parallel between middle battery cells (see Abstract).

In contrast, the presently claimed invention as set forth in claim 1, for example, is directed to a process for conducting operating heat of a semiconductor switch to a heating cell which is triggered by the semiconductor switch. A cooling fin is provided on the semiconductor switch and the semiconductor switch is placed over a surface of a first heat and current conducting material strip. The first heat and current conducting material strip is electrically connected to a supply voltage. The first heat and current conducting material strip is placed over a surface of a second heat and current conducting material strip with a heat-conducting insulating film located between the first and second heat and current conducting material strips. The second heat and current conducting material strip is placed on a surface of a frame terminal. A heating cell is provided which electrically and thermally connects said frame terminal to said heating cell. The frame terminal is placed on a surface of a second heat-conducting insulating film. A supply terminal is provided and the heat-conducting insulating film is placed on a surface of said power supply terminal. The cited portions of Thomsen do not disclose or suggest the above-described combination of features.

For example, the cited portions of Thomsen do not disclose or suggest providing a cooling fin on the semiconductor switch, as currently recited in independent claim 1. In rejecting this feature, the Office Action refers to column 3, lines 1-3 and column 11, lines 58-61. As described in these portions of Thomsen, the switches are placed inside the battery in conducting contact with a metal plate which is directly attached to a terminal of one of the middle battery cells and which can be arranged against a bent cooling fin 69 or flange. This portion of Thomsen, however, does not disclose or suggest the use of a cooling fin on the semiconductor switch, as set forth in independent claim 1. Rather, in Thomsen, the cooling

fin is provided on a metal plate and the metal plate is located the opposite side of the semiconductor switches. Thus, for this reason alone, Applicants respectfully submit that a cooling fin on a switch is not disclosed in Thomsen and, therefore, request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that the Thomsen patent does not disclose or suggest providing a heating cell and electrically and thermally connecting said frame terminal to said heating cell, as set forth in independent claim 1. In rejecting this feature, the Office Action refers to column 4, lines 22-42. This portion of the Thomsen patent is provided below:

For providing an increased heat dissipation, the first plate can be prolonged by a cooling flange and in particular the cooling flange can be a separate plate which at one of its sides is in thermal contact with a large side of the first plate. The cooling flange is, for reducing or optimizing the space used by the switch device, bent or curved so that it will have a portion which is located above the switches.

For a switch arranged inside a battery which as conventional has cells, each one comprising positive and negative battery plates, which are connected to by a connector strap to form a terminal of the cell, the first plate-shaped member may, also for provide a possibility for heat dissipation and for simplifying the arrangement, be in an electrical and intimate thermal contact with such a terminal of a battery cell. The terminal with which the plate is in contact has then preferably an upstanding portion, a pole post, which is prolonged by a pole piece extending to the side, in parallel to the upper edges of the battery plates. The terminal with which the plate is in contact has also a substantially flat top surface, on which the plate is mounted, for enhancing the thermal contact.

Applicants can find no disclosure of providing a heating cell, recited in independent claim 1, within this portion of the Thomsen patent. Since Thomsen does not disclose a heating cell, it certainly follows that there is no disclosure or suggestion of electrically and thermally connecting said frame terminal to said heating cell, as set forth in independent claim 1. If this rejection is maintained, Applicants respectfully request that this feature be more specifically pointed out so that the Examiner's position can be better understood. In the absence of such information, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over Thomsen. Independent claim 2, is directed to a heating element that includes similar features

to claim 1 and Applicants respectfully submit are allowable for at least the reasons provided above with respect to independent claim 1.

Additionally, claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 2. Therefore, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable for at least the reasons discussed with respect to the independent claims, as well as for reasons of their own.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with applicant's representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 17, 2003

By: 

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Registration No. 27,997

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